

Message Text

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TAGS: TSPA, IT

SUBJ: SPACE PROJECTS FINANCING

REF: ROME 708

DEPT. PASS NASA; PARIS FOR NASA/REP

1. MORE THAN TWO MONTHS AFTER CIPE (INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC PLANNING) CONSIDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL SPACE PROGRAMS, CIPE FINALLY TOOK UP NATIONAL SPACE PROGRAMS, SIRIO, SAN MARCO AND TERRA IN ITS MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9. FOLLOWING FUNDING WAS APPROVED FOR 1973 THROUGH 1976. PROJECT SIRIO - 18 BILLION LIRE (ABOUT \$30 MILLION) SAN MARCO - 6.6. BILLION LIRE (ABOUT \$11 MILLION) NATIONAL SPACE LABORATORIS - 10 BILLION LIRE (ABOUT \$16.6 MILLION)

2. CIPE DELIBERATION CALLED FOR SIRIO SATELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED NO LATER THAN JULY 1975. FINDS APPROVED FOR BOTH SIRIO AND NATIONAL SPACE LABORATORIES WERE SAME AN ORIGINAL SUMS APPROVED BY CIPE MEETING HELD LAST JANUARY (SEE REFTEL) UNDER OLD GOVERNMENT. AFTER RUMOR GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED, MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FELT THAT OLD COMMITMENTS (CIPE'S JANUARY MEETING) SHOULD BE RECONFIRMED BY NEW GOVERNMENT.

3. FUNDS FOR SAN MARCO GO FOR UPKEEP OF SAN MARCO RANGE AND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SAN MARCO D.

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4. THE FINANCING APPROVED BY CIPE REQUIRES PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL. SPACE OFFICIALS ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL, BUT TIMING IS UNCERTAIN.

5. FUNDING FOR TELESPAZIO'S TERRA PROJECT - CONSTRUCTION OF A GROUND STATION TO RECEIVE ERTS DATA - WAS NOT APPROVED BY CIPE DUE TO DESIRE TO KEEP DOWN GOVERNMENT SPENDING. THERE IS STILL VERY GOOD CHANCE THAT TERRA PROJECT WILL BE REALIZED SINCE TELESPAZIO HAS OTHER POSSIBILITIES FOR FUNDING PROJECT VOLPE

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